

Appl. No. 10/624,091  
Response dated January 31, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of Nov. 30, 2005

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1. (currently amended) Apparatus for cutting pipes underwater comprising:

a jacket;

an external supply ring;

means for jetting the jacket down over the pipe;

means for blowing mud out from between the pipe and the jacket so the annulus between the pipe and the jacket can be substantially filled with water and/or air, wherein the jacket includes jet tubes running from the external supply ring through the wall of the ~~tool jacket~~ and turn down on the inside of the ~~tool jacket~~.

2. (original) Apparatus for cutting pipes underwater comprising:

a jacket;

means for jetting the jacket down over the pipe;

means for blowing mud out from between the pipe and the jacket so the annulus between the pipe and the jacket can be substantially filled with water and/or air, wherein the jacket includes jet pipes and a supply ring outfitted with air supply connections that allow for injecting air through the jet pipes to create a vacuum to pull the oxygen through the cut and up the annulus.

3. (original) A method of cutting pipes underwater comprising jetting a jacket of any prior claim down over the pipe, blowing mud out from between the pipe and the jacket so the annulus between the pipe and the jacket is substantially filled with water and/or air, and performing the cutting operation from within the pipe.

4. (cancelled).